



[Comment on this Record](#)

## Bloomington, Indiana University, Bloomington, Lilly Library at Indiana University, Ricketts 12

*Description:* ff. 500 - Bound in fifteenth-century Italian blind-stamped leather over thin wooden boards sewn on 5 thongs, the sides panelled with a broad frame infilled with multiple impressions of ropework tools, the central compartments with a geometrical design in ropework stamps resembling an 8-pointed star (or two squares at angles to each other), lacking 2 clasps and catches, parchment pastedowns; in a green cloth case. - V. M. Voynich (1865-1930), Polish revolutionary and bookseller, who gave it to C. L. Ricketts; acquired by the Lilly Library with the Ricketts Collection in 1961. - De Ricci 1935, p. 619; Silver 1991, p. 3, no. 7.

*Notes:* -Some rubbing and lifting of ink (as often with Italian parchment). The manuscript contains evidence of commercial production. Beside a number of the historiated initials are one or more little strokes drawn faintly in plummet, the strokes represent the total number of individual historiated initials in each particular gathering, The marks are clearly connected with payment, and a commercial enterprise. The manuscript was being illuminated in unbound gatherings and the workshop was being paid in those units. Multiples of strokes rather than a number may suggest that either the artist or the invoicer could not read. Hitherto, such marks have been found only in French manuscripts of the late twelfth century. To find them in Bologna in the mid-thirteenth century is unexpected.

*Number of Parts:* 1 - *Number of Images Available:* 4

*Direct Link:* [http://ds.lib.berkeley.edu/Ricketts12\\_40](http://ds.lib.berkeley.edu/Ricketts12_40)

*Language:* Latin *Country:* Italy *Century:* 12th

### Part 1: ff.1-500v

*Description:* - Parchment - 225 x 154 mm - Collation:  $\text{f}^3$  [of 14, lacking i], ii-xiii<sup>14</sup>, xiv<sup>8</sup>, xv<sup>14</sup>, xvi-xvii<sup>16</sup>, xviii-xxvi<sup>14</sup>, xxvii<sup>18</sup>, xxviii-xxxiii<sup>14</sup>, xxxiv<sup>9</sup> [of 10, blank x canceled after fol. 472], xxxv-xxxvi<sup>14</sup>, with traces of catchwords in cartouches (just visible, for example, on fols. 139v, 291v and 488v, ends of quires x, xxi and xxxv); 2 columns, ruled in plummet, 50-51 lines, each column 128 mm. by 41 mm. with 5 mm. between columns, script beginning below top ruled line.

*Country:* Italy

*Region:*

*Assigned Date:* s. XII<sup>3/4</sup>

*Dated by scribe:* No

*Document:* No

*Script:* Italianate Textura

*Artist(s):* Several

*Figurative Decoration:* 83 historiated initials up to the full height of the page (the Genesis initial) but mostly about 8 lines high, in elaborate leafy and animal designs in colours and burnished gold (fols. 2v, 3r, 21r, 35v, 45v, 60r, 73r, 82r, 91v, 93r, 93v, 106v, 116v, 128v, 140r, 151r, 165r, 169r, 174v, 180v, 190r, 194r, 199r, 205r, 215r, 218r, 220r, 222r, 224r, 226v, 229r, 231v, 236r, 244r, 247r, 248v, 254v, 270r, 288r, 311r, 313v, 333v, 342r, 345r, 346r, 348v, 349r, 351v (two initials), 353r, 353v, 355r, 355v, 359r, 360r, 371v, 380r, 391v, 399v, 412v, 422v, 427v, 432r, 435r, 436v, 438r, 439r, 440r, 441r, 442r, 443r, 444r, 444v, 445r, 448v, 461v, 462v, 464r, 464v, 466r (three initials) and 467r).

*Other Decoration:* Headings in red, running-titles in alternating red and blue capitals, chapter initials in red or blue with full-length penwork decoration on most pages in the contrasting color, some larger painted initials in colors on panelled grounds.

*Notes:* The initial on fol. 254v of Ricketts 12 (marking the opening of Ecclesiasticus) shows a friar in a grey habit, receiving a book from Christ. It may suggest that this manuscript was made for a Franciscan. Latin

*Number of Texts:* 1

### Text 1: ff.499v

*Title:* Bible

*Language(s):* Latin



391v

[View image](#)

[Download image](#)



391v Detail.

[View image](#)

[Download image](#)



466r Incipit Epistola Jude. Bearded saint standing on a dragon. 2, 8-line historiated letter "S"s.

[View image](#)

[Download image](#)



f. 3r

[View image](#)

[Download image](#)